

The Oceanography Report



The Oceanography Report
The first point for physical, chemical, geological, and biological oceanography.

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Information Report

Symposia on Chemical Oceanography

A continuing concern of the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Office of Naval Research (ONR), and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is the effective utilization of young scientists. In this effort, these agencies are interested in becoming more familiar with the ideas being formulated by these individuals as they enter the field of oceanography and independently pursue their research interests. It is also felt important that these new graduates be in possession not only of the most recent information on the research climate and opportunities in their respective fields, but are provided an insight into the structure, missions, and modes of operation of the sponsoring agencies of the symposia, as well as the procedures to follow in seeking support to conduct research from these agencies. As a result, the Marine Chemistry Program of NSF and the Chemical Oceanography Program of ONR were extremely receptive to a suggestion made in October 1976 by E. D. Goldberg of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography that it would be useful to have a symposium convened which would be completely dedicated to soon-to-be or recent Ph.D. graduates in chemical oceanography. After discussions at some considerable length with members of the scientific community, preparations were set in motion for convening such a meeting, which was anticipated to be the first in a series.

Owing to the fact that the symposia were created for and are completely dedicated to the newest Ph.D.'s in chemical oceanography, certain general guidelines were formulated. First, major professors of the participants and their departmental heads and deans would not be invited to attend the meeting. The reason for this was that we did not wish to run the risk of creating any barrier to open and frank discussions of papers being presented or to risk achieving the goals of the meeting by its being taken over by these individuals. Second, participation was limited to ensure that each participant had ample time to present his or her thesis research and that sufficient time was available for in-depth discussion and debate. Third, application to and selection for the meeting would be made on the basis of an extended abstract. These abstracts are to be printed in final form approximately 1 month after the close of the symposium, providing an opportunity for the authors to make any revisions as a consequence of the discussions that took place during the meeting. These abstracts are available from the sponsoring agencies. Finally, time would be made available to the participants not only to initiate and hold informal sessions, but also to address certain topics raised by the agencies at the opening session. The results of these informal sessions would be presented by spokespersons of the groups formed to address the assignments.

It was felt that by bringing together, in scientific discussion and interaction, late stage chemical oceanography doctoral candidates, as well as new Ph.D.'s, professional relationships would be forged which would facilitate future interdisciplinary and interinstitutional investigations. It was also considered that the entire oceanographic community would become better aware of innovations in marine chemistry as a consequence of making young workers' efforts more visible. On the basis of the various types of data from the respective programs involved, these objectives have been realized, and it may well prove to be rewarding to consider having similar symposia convened in the other subdisciplines comprising the Ocean Sciences.

The first Dissertations Symposium on Chemical Oceanography (DISCO) was convened in

February 1978, jointly supported by NSF and ONR. Subsequent to the first meeting, NOAA joined in sponsoring the symposia, which have been convened at approximately 18 month intervals, with coordination being provided in all instances by the American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS).

The fifth symposium was recently completed on March 9, 1984, and, again, was a complete success as viewed from both participants and sponsors who attended. With the conclusion of this latest meeting, a total of 139 young marine scientists representing 27 U.S. institutions have had the advantage of participating in, and receiving the benefits of, these symposia. In discussing the desirability of continuing these meetings with the community at large, which obviously included former participants, the present enthusiasm is greater than at the beginning in 1978, and it is clear that these meetings are a community service.

During the period of these symposia, we have benefited from having 10 foreign participants, representing five countries (Belgium, France, Japan, Norway, and Pakistan). Travel for these participants has been provided by both their national resources and the International Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO. Recently, the International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Ocean (IAPSO) has indicated that as an international scientific body they would be pleased to become associated with these meetings, and efforts have been initiated to obtain resources from an international organization to support foreign participation. In addition to the national resources noted above, indeed, it would seem that this series of symposia is proving to be of value well beyond that initially envisaged.

The sixth DISCO is now being planned and is anticipated to be convened from October 14 to 18, 1985. To be an invited speaker at the symposium, the applicant should have received his or her doctorate from an accredited university after October 1984 or, alternatively, his or her departmental chairperson or college dean must certify on the application form that in all probability the applicant will receive his or her degree before July 31, 1986. The applicant's thesis must deal with an important problem in chemical oceanography.

Potential participants are urged to note the dates of this meeting and be alert to a further announcement which will appear in the scientific literature and the posting of information concerning obtaining applications, which will be given wide distribution to appropriate graduate schools.

This Information Report was contributed by Neil R. Andersen, National Science Foundation, Washington, D.C. 20550, and Frank L. Herr, Office of Naval Research, Washington, D.C. 20350.

News & Announcements

Research Ship Plans for 1985-1987

The University National Oceanographic Laboratory System (UNOLS), representing operators of American academic research ships, has established a National Expeditionary Planning Committee to coordinate planning of research ship cruises to remote areas, multi-ship operations, and operations requiring fixed schedules of work. One essential part of this is to provide predictions of the areas in which the major research ships are likely to operate to make it possible for scientific investigators to do their own planning. This is, of course, a circular process: Some marine scientists have told us of their plans; these have resulted in tentative schedules. We hope that other investigators will fit their plans into these schedules to use the ships more efficiently and to avoid unproductive transit time.

In the following list, ships are listed as working in their "normal operating area," areas close to home port if there are not present plans for them to work elsewhere. Generalized routes are given for those ships for which there are plans for remote operations. All plans are of course subject to change. Scientific investigators interested in working on any of these ships should contact the ship-operating institution or the UNOLS office (William D. Burpee, UNOLS Office WB-15, School of Oceanography, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98198).

R/V Knorr (Woods Hole): Normal operating area (north and equatorial Atlantic) during summers of 1985 and 1986. Work in far south Atlantic during winter of 1985-1986; may return north either through the Atlantic or the western Indian Ocean and Mediterranean. Time available for work en route in 1985 and 1986.

R/V Melville (Scripps): Normal operating area (northeast and central Pacific) 1985 through November and summer of 1986.

Possible meridional transects to and from Antarctica along 100° and 170° west in early 1986. Work in southern ocean (Atlantic and Pacific) in winter of 1986-1987, with transit routes either through eastern Pacific or south Atlantic.

R/V Atlantis II (Woods Hole): Northeast Pacific in early 1985. *Atlantis II* will carry the DSRV *Alvin* through 1985; its schedule is therefore tied to the *Alvin* schedule, which is not yet firm beyond the end of 1984. *Atlantis II* will be equipped with a SeaBeam system during 1985.

R/V Cornelia (Lamont): Will work in the equatorial Atlantic and Caribbean in early 1985, followed by East Pacific Rise work in San Diego by June. Transit to the western Pacific (Philippines, South China Sea) and Indian Ocean (north Australia) will be followed by availability in Indian Ocean or southern Indian-Atlantic ocean in late 1985 and early 1986. A tentative schedule for further work in the Indian Ocean during mid-1986 will await proposals. *Cornelia* is principally outfitted for marine geophysical programs, with SeaBeam and multibeam seismic system.

R/V Thomas Washington (Scripps): Status 1985 in the south Atlantic; returns to eastern equatorial Pacific in May 1985. In fall-winter 1985 will probably make a loop via Hawaii to the southwest Pacific, to southeast Pacific. May return north in early 1986 through southeast Pacific for north Pacific operations. Will return south to Antarctica for the winter of 1986-1987. Equipped with SeaBeam; will carry two-channel digital seismic system for most of time.

R/V Thomas Thompson (University of Washington): Normal operating area (north Pacific north of about 25° north). Will work to Japan and back in 1985, has time available in the northeast Pacific.

R/V Mauna Kea (Hawaii): Will start 1985 off the coast of Peru, work off western South America in early 1985, transit via Easter Island across the South Pacific to the Fiji area in mid-1985. Will work in the western and southwestern Pacific through October and then proceed to the South Atlantic via either western South America or the Indian Ocean in November or December. Early 1986 will be spent in the southern oceans and a return to Honolulu via the Indian Ocean and south-western Pacific is planned for the summer and fall of 1986. *Mauna Kea* is being lengthened in 1984 and will carry a multibeam digital seismic system and SeaMARC II in addition to general laboratory areas and deep sea trawl and hydrographic winches.

R/V Oceanus (Woods Hole): Normal operating area (North Atlantic).

R/V Endeavor (University of Rhode Island): Normal operating area (North Atlantic). In 1985 will work between Equator and Iceland. In 1986 may work part of year in southeast Pacific.

R/V Columbus Iselin (University of Miami): Normal operating area (western North Atlantic, Gulf, and Caribbean).

R/V Cyre (Texas A&M): Normal operating area (western North Atlantic, Gulf, and Caribbean).

R/V Hovgaard (Scripps): Normal operating area (eastern north Pacific, California to Mexico).

R/V Wecoma (Oregon State University): Normal operating area (northwest coast of United States). Will work south to Peru and back in March-April 1985.

This news item was contributed by George Shor, Jr., Chairman, UNOLS National Expeditionary Planning Committee, University of California, San Diego, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, CA 92093.

Symposium on Vertical Motion

A Symposium on Vertical Motion in the Equatorial Upper Ocean and Its Effects Upon Living Resources and the Atmosphere is to be held May 6-10, 1986, in Paris, France. This multidisciplinary international

symposium will address vertical motion in the equatorial upper ocean by bringing together leading researchers in oceanography, meteorology, and fisheries. Papers are invited with in the following topics: (1) generation, maintenance, and dissipation of mechanisms of vertical motion; (2) relationship between changes in vertical motion and upper ocean heat content, sea surface temperature, and atmospheric planetary boundary layer variations; (3) instrumentation, observational techniques, and data analysis methods; (4) relationship between vertical motion and nutrient enrichment, biological productivity, and fisheries yield; (5) coastal upwelling in low-latitude regions; (6) the role of vertical motion in the 1982-1983 El Niño Southern Oscillation event; and (7) the relationship between vertical motion and the distribution of chemical properties.

This symposium is organized by the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR) Working Group 86 and is cosponsored by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), SCOR/IOC Committee on Climate Changes and the Ocean (CCC/O), Division of Marine Sciences of the UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Members of the Symposium Organizing Committee are: D. Halpern (Chairman), United States; R. Barber, United States; O. Guillou, Peru; D. Ho, People's Republic of China; R. Jimenez, Ecuador; A. Longhurst, Canada; H. Rousch, Ivory Coast; and B. Voituriez, France. The language of the Symposium will be English.

Circular Number 1 was issued in March 1984, in which abstract, registration, and general information about the symposium is provided, can be obtained by writing to David Halpern, NOAA PMEL, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115.

The Pacific and Its Influence

A specially equipped scientific research ship and an Orion F-3 instrumented aircraft will be dispatched to the equatorial Pacific Ocean this spring by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to conduct in-tandem studies of the ocean's influence on, and relationship with, the atmosphere. The NOAA ship *Researcher* will raise the waters from Honolulu to Tahiti between May 14 and June 4, taking water and air measurements while the Orion aircraft samples the atmosphere overhead. After 3 weeks of data collection, scientists hope to gain new knowledge about how the ocean is involved in such phenomena as acid rain, El Niño, and the "greenhouse" buildup of carbon dioxide.

The project will support a series of flexible, interlocking scientific experiments. To try and answer the question of why rain acidity is so high in the remote ocean as it is in some coastal areas, one of these experiments will investigate concentrations of sulfur and other chemicals in the water column and at the atmosphere's boundary with the ocean. Another experiment deals with carbon dioxide and how it is transferred at the air-sea interface, a step in trying to understand the global "greenhouse" effect that is believed to be warming up the earth's climate.

Two more studies will gather data on trade winds in the equatorial zone and on the turbulent updrafts and downdrafts that transfer heat across the air-water boundary. The fifth experiment is an investigation of the thermocline boundary layer that separates cold, oxygen-poor waters from the warmer waters above them.

These last two investigations will also feed data into NOAA's multi-year EPOCS (Equatorial Pacific Ocean Climate Studies) program, a broad effort by climatologists to understand the variation of sea surface temperatures in the tropical Pacific from season to season and from year to year. The hope is that this program will shed new light on global climate patterns and how they are occasionally disrupted by events such as last year's El Niño.

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intensity; deeper, stronger earthquakes; 2 seismic crises. Manam (Bismarck Sea): Strombolian jets, glowing avalanches, scoria flows. Langila (New Britain): Activity low; explosions at middle and end of month. Uluwatu (New Britain): Explosions and January seismic crisis 3-month summary. Baguua (Solomon Is.): Summit, glow, tephra emissions; but no new lava flows. Atmospheric Effects: Aerosols persist at mid-latitudes; sunset reports. Mauna Loa Volcano, Hawaii (19.4°N, 155.6°W). All times are local (= UT-10 hours).

The following text is for the phone data from the USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory. Times noted below are preliminary and subject to slight revision after later analysis. The USGS will provide a more detailed report of the eruption for a future issue of EOS.

A Rank eruption began on March 25 and had ended by April 15. Simultaneous eruptions on March 30 at Mauna Loa, Kilauea, Mt. St. Helens, and Ventanaof make this the first date known on which four U.S. volcanoes were erupting at the same time. Summit inflation had continued since Mauna Loa's last eruption July 5-6, 1975. Based on an increase in the rate of geodetic change and seismic activity, Decker et al. (EOS, September 13, 1983) called attention to the "increased probability of a Mauna Loa eruption within the next 2 years."

There was almost no short-term instrumental warning of the eruption. Seismic activity had been increasing gradually through March, but only 29 microearthquakes were recorded beneath the summit caldera in the 24 hours before the eruption (in contrast to 700 microearthquakes per day in September 1983). At 2255 on March 24, a small earthquake swarm began directly beneath the summit and weak harmonic tremor was recorded from the summit station at 2350. Tremor amplitude and the number of earthquakes increased about midnight, and borehole dilometers recorded the onset of rapid summit inflation at 0100.

A military satellite detected a "smog" infrared signal from the summit at 0125, and glow was sighted from the ground 4 min later.

EOS

Transactions, American Geophysical Union

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Cover. Magnetic reconnection is a process, important in systems of magnetized plasmas, by which differently directed field lines link up, allowing topological changes of the magnetic field to occur, determining patterns of plasma flow, and resulting in conversion of magnetic energy to kinetic and thermal energy of the plasma. The cover figure demonstrates quite similar consequences of magnetic reconnection that are found in the vastly different environments of a comet, earth's magnetosphere, and a laboratory fusion experiment. (Top) Yerkes Observatory photographs of Comet Morehouse before and after its plasma tail was severed by magnetic reconnection near the comet's head in what is called a "disconnection event" (DE). A comet's plasma tail is created by an accumulation of solar wind magnetic field lines that drape around the comet's head. In a DE, the solar wind plasma and energy that have been stored gradually in the tail during its generation are suddenly released and returned to the solar wind. (Middle) The plasma sheet (shaded) in the tail of earth's magnetosphere is suddenly severed near the earth by magnetic reconnection. This creates a plasmoid (a system of closed magnetic loops) that flows rapidly away through the tail, carrying a vast amount of plasma and

er. Lava fountaining began in the caldera and upper southwest rift, but eruption fissures had migrated down the northeast rift before dawn. All dikes were emplaced within the first 15 hours of the eruption, at propagation rates that varied from 3500 m/hour down the SW rift zone to about 1200 m/hour in lower parts of the NE rift zone (Figure 1).

By March 26 all lava production was concentrated along a 500-m fissure segment near 2900 m altitude, about 15 km NE of the summit area (Figure 2). Approximately 80% of the lava production fed flow 1, which moved rapidly northward toward Hilo March 27-28 (Figure 3). Significant advance of the front of flow 1 stopped by early March 29, more than 7 km from the nearest homes, although production at the vents remained essentially constant. When weather cleared March 30, a new branch flow (1A) was advancing quickly N of flow 1, but it slowed the next day as it thickened and widened upstream and the feeding channel became sluggish. Slow advance continued until April 5, when a major overflow at about 2000 m altitude shut off most of its lava supply and fed a fast-moving flow (1B). Lava production decreased by about 50% during the nights of April 8-9 and subsequent activity fed flows that did not move far downslope. The rate of outflow gradually decreased and the eruption had ended by early April 15.

The eruption produced a large gas plume that was carried thousands of kilometers to the W by trade winds. There was no evidence that the plume reached the stratosphere. By March 30, a haze layer was detected at Wake and Johnston Islands (1400 and 3900 km from Mauna Loa) and had reached Guam (6300 km to the WSW) by April 2. SO₂ emitted by Mauna Loa was detected by the TOMS instrument on the Nimbus 7 polar orbiting satellite, which passed over Hawaii daily at about local noon. From the TOMS data, preliminary estimates of the total SO₂ in the Mauna Loa plume were roughly 180,000 metric tons on March 26 and 190,000 tons on March 27.

The 1984 basalt was very fine-grained with widely scattered (<<1%) phenocrysts of olivine (most Fo 88-90) and sparse minor phenocrysts of plagioclase and clinopyroxene. Maximum temperatures determined repeatedly by thermocouple and radiometer ranged from 1137°-1141°C.

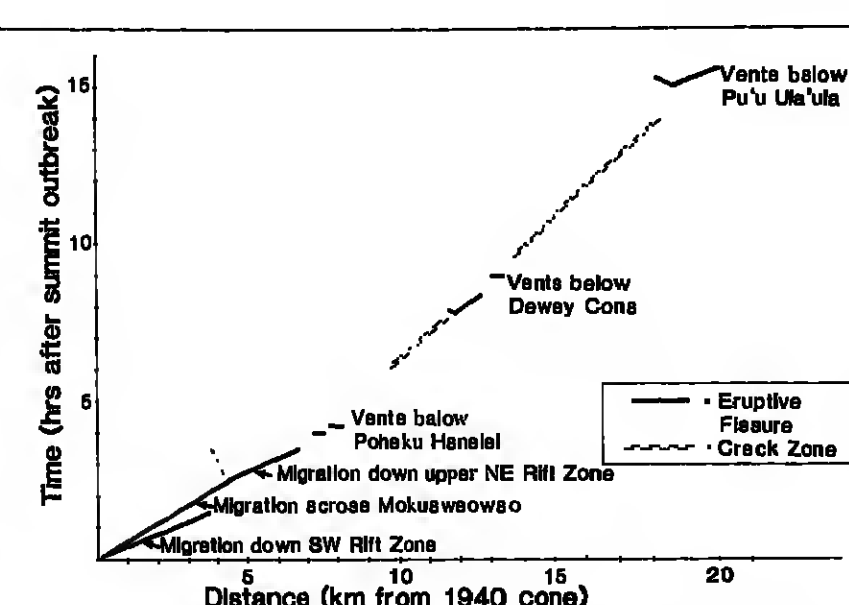


Fig. 1. Rate of propagation of eruption fissures, shown as distance from the 1940 cone (in the SW part of the summit caldera; see Figure 2) versus time in hours after the start of the eruption.

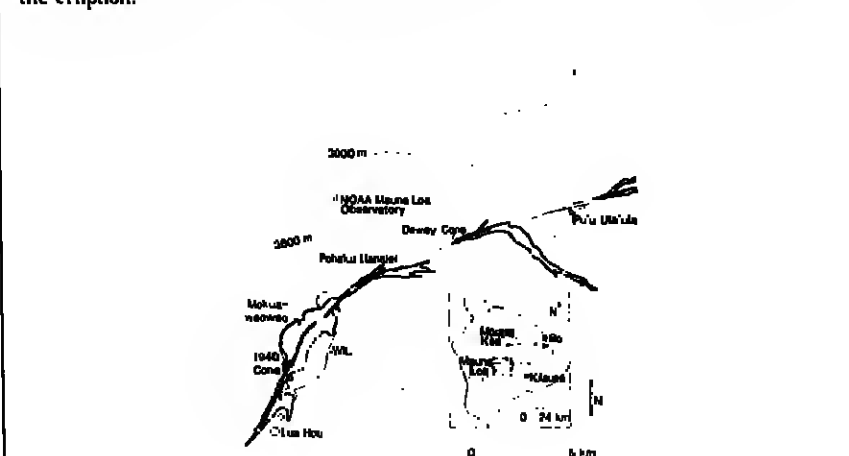


Fig. 2. Maps of the summit area and northeast rift zone of Mauna Loa. Eruption fissures are indicated by hatched lines and 1984 lava flows are stippled. Contours are approximately 600 m apart. The edge of the suburbs of Hilo is shown by a dotted line.

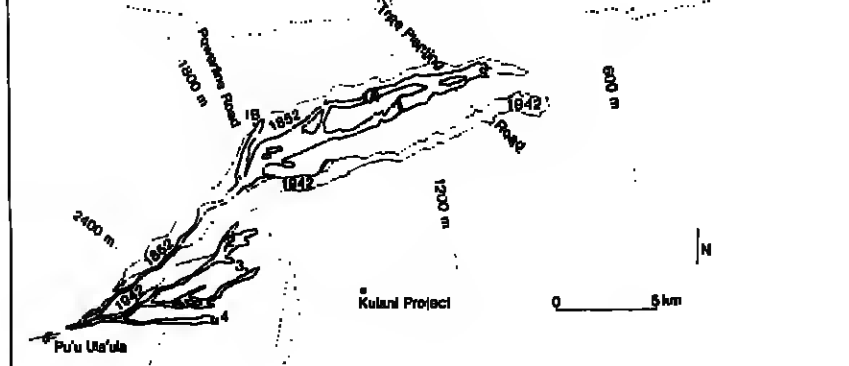


Fig. 3. Rate of movement of flows 1A and 1B, in kilometers per day. Small circles represent observations of flow positions.

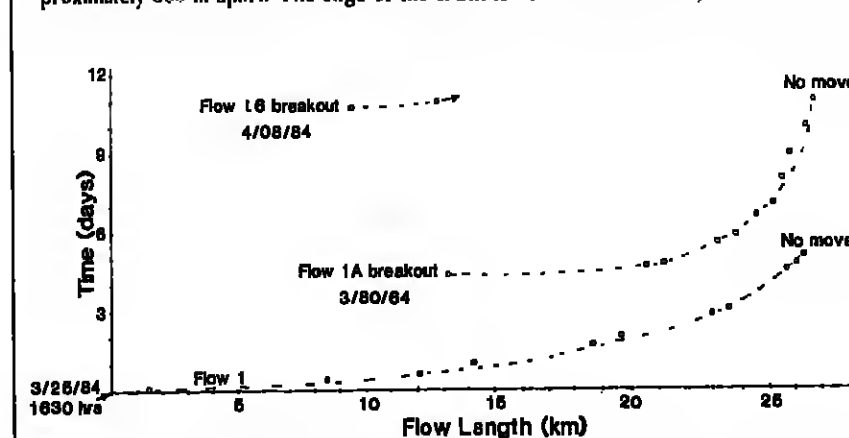


Fig. 4. Rate of movement of flow 1A, in kilometers per day. Small circles represent observations of flow positions.

Phase 17 of Kilauea's east rift zone eruption began March 30 but had no apparent effect on Mauna Loa activity. Likewise, Kilauea rift showed no deflection as the Mauna Loa eruption began March 25.

Information Contacts: J. Lockwood and staff, USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, HI 96718; J. M. Rhodes, Dept. of Geology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003; Michael Garcia, Dept. of Geology and Geophysics, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI 96822; Tom Casadevall, USGS Cascades Volcano Observatory, 5400 MacArthur Blvd., Vancouver, WA 98661; Arlin Krueger, Code 963, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD 20771; Michael Matson, NOAA/NESDIS, Room 510 World Weather Bldg., Washington, DC 20233.

Fernandina Caldera, Galapagos Islands (0.37°S, 91.5°W). All times are local (= UT-6 hours).

At 0500 on March 30, Oswaldo Chapl and Fausto Cepeda (of the Galapagos National Park) heard noise from Fernandina Caldera, 22 km SW of their position at Tagus Cove.

Glow was visible over the NW end of the caldera, and a cloud was seen issuing from the same location after sunrise. The eruption was described as being smaller than the Volcan Wolf eruption of 1982 (see *SEAN Bulletin*, vol. 7, no. 8).

The TOMS instrument in the Nimbus 7 polar orbiting satellite detected SO₂ produced by the eruption April 1 and 2. No data were available March 30-31, and SO₂ had dropped below the detection threshold by April 3. Strongest values on April 1 were directly over the volcano, and a preliminary estimate of total SO₂ was 60,000 metric tons. No eruption cloud was evident on NOAA weather satellite imagery.

On the afternoon of April 4, the cruise ship Santa Cruz reported a long plume of vapor coming from the caldera, but apparently decreasing in size. They looked for glow over the volcano that night but reported none.

On April 11, Fernandina was climbed from the NW by David Day and L. Peterson; who reported an apparently inactive lava flow

News (cont. on p. 340)

